

**From:** John Borchardt  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** MS Settlement

To whom it may concern:

In my opinion, the proposed "punishment" of Microsoft for their monopolistic business practices is a joke.

A joke.

It does not punish Microsoft at all. \$1 Billion dollars means little to a company as large as Microsoft. Furthermore, the proposed "punishment" in fact extends Microsofts monopolistic tendrils even further into our economy and society.

The current settlement is not a punishment at all. It in fact benefits Microsoft.

I suggest you take a look at the punitive action proposed by Red Hat, Inc. Their proposal states that Microsoft will provide only computer hardware, and no software, to the nation's most disadvantaged students. Red Hat will provide all the software, from the operating system to the productivity suites, and unlimited technical support for these systems. In turn, Microsoft will use the funds they would have "spent" on licenses for Windows and Office to purchase even more computers for these schools. Red Hat predicts that as many as five times as many computers may be delivered to schools under this settlement as compared to the current settlement.

Put simply, Red Hat's plan punishes Microsoft, benefits more the nation's poorest schools, and fosters a long-term solution to Microsoft's monopolistic business practices: competition.

I thank you for your time.

-John Borchardt  
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